

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 19296 01 OF 03 211820Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----074380 211825Z /40

R 211611Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3283
USMISSION USBERLIN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO
CINC EUR VAHINGEN
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 19296

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: XGDS 3
TAGS: PGOV, BQG
SUBJECT: FLAG TOURS: PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO
BERLIN CONTINGENCY PLANS

REFS: (A) STATE 260327 DTG 312219Z OCT 77
(B) STATE 255313 DTG 252121Z OCT 77

BEGIN SUMMARY: MINOR CHANGES TO THE CONTINGENCY PLAN
WERE AGREED UPON, AD REF, BY THE BONN GROUP ON NOVEMBER
10. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF AD REF CHANGES.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE BONN GROUP, ON NOVEMBER 10, GAVE AD REF APPROVAL
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BONN 19296 01 OF 03 211820Z

TO MINOR CHANGES TO THE CONTINGENCY PLAN AS SET OUT
BELOW. THESE CHANGES ARE PRIMARILY THOSE SUGGESTED BY
LONDON, WITH SOME PROPOSED ON INSTRUCTIONS BY THE FRG,
THE FRENCH AND THE US. REVISED COPIES OF THE PLAN
REFLECTING THESE CHANGES WILL BE FORWARDED TO EUR/CE AND
USBER.

CHANGES IN THE NARRATIVE PORTION

2. PARAGRAPH 2 (PRESENT PRACTICE): DELETE THE BALANCE OF THE FOURTH SENTENCE FROM "AND TOTAL SOVIET VEHICLES" TO SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING: "; IN JULY AND AUGUST 1977 THE AVERAGE TOTAL OF SOVIET VEHICLES ON FLAG PATROLS IN WEST BERLIN PER MONTH WAS 200 COMPARED WITH 168 ALLIED VEHICLES ON FLAG PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN." IN ADDITION, SUBSTITUTE "SECONDARY" FOR "INCIDENTAL" IN PENULTIMATE SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 2.

3. IN SAME PARAGRAPH, INSERT THE WORD "ALLIED" BEFORE "FLAG TOURS PLAY."

4. PARAGRAPH 5, DELETE THE PHRASE "WAS SOME 250 PER WEEK" AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING: "WAS SOME 1,000 PER MONTH (1,250 PER MONTH IN MID-1977 AS COMPARED WITH 395 SOVIET VEHICLES PER MONTH IN WEST BERLIN)."

5. PARAGRAPH 7(C) (ALLIED BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE GDR): SUBSTITUTE "COULD" FOR "WOULD".

6. SAME PARAGRAPH 7(C): ADD NEW SENTENCE AT END:
"IT IS ALSO THE CASE THAT MEASURES AGAINST GDR INTERESTS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 BONN 19296 01 OF 03 211820Z

DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE A DETERRENT EFFECT ON THE SOVIET UNION."

7. PARAGRAPH 7(D) (STEPS BY THE FRG): SUBSTITUTE FOLLOWING FOR SECOND SENTENCE: "THE FRG CAN EXERCISE

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PAGE 01 BONN 19296 02 OF 03 220435Z
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3284
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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 03 BONN 19296

EXDIS

A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF LEVERAGE ON THE GDR AND, TO A
LESSER EXTENT, ON THE SOVIET UNION."

8. SAME PARAGRAPH, DELETE "IF THE SITUATION BECAME
MORE CRITICAL" AND SUBSTITUTE "IN SUCH A SITUATION".

9. SAME PARAGRAPH, DELETE "MORE SEVERE" AND SUBSTITUTE
"SUCH".

CHANGES IN THE TABLE

10. UNDER OCCURRENCE A, HARRASSMENT IN EAST BERLIN:

A) UNDER POSSIBLE COUNTERMEASURES COLUMN, SUB-
STITUTE "REMARKS IV" FOR "REMARKS III" IN PARENTHETICAL
PHRASE UNDER PARAGRAPH C (ALLIED BILATERAL
RELATIONS WITH THE GDR).

SECRET

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PAGE 02 BONN 19296 02 OF 03 220435Z

B) UNDER SAME COLUMN, PARAGRAPH D, SUBSTITUTE
"SEE REMARKS V" FOR "BUT SEE REMARKS IV."

C) UNDER REMARKS COLUMN, INSERT THE FOLLOWING AS
A NEW REMARK II: "IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO IDENTIFY AS
CLEARLY AS POSSIBLE IN EACH CASE WHETHER THE ACTION
WAS TAKEN BY SOVIET OR EAST GERMAN FORCES OR AGENCIES."
RENUMBER PRESENT REMARKS II, III AND IV AS III, IV AND
V.

D) UNDER REMARK RENUMBERED AS IV (ACTIONS IN
BILATERAL RELATIONS...), ADD A NEW SENTENCE TO
FOLLOW THE FIRST SENTENCE: "THEY MAY BE THOUGHT MORE

SUITABLE FOR THE MORE SERIOUS EVENTUALITIES OF PATROLS BEING DETAINED OR EXCLUDED, FOR WHICH THEY ARE ALSO LISTED AND FOR WHICH NO SIGNIFICANT EXTRA STEPS IN RELATION TO THE GDR ARE HELD IN RESERVE." (COMMENT: THIS WAS A UK SUGGESTION, THE FRENCH ARGUED AGAINST IT AND RESERVED THEIR POSITION PENDING INSTRUCTIONS. UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT STIPULATES OTHERWISE, WE WILL ASSUME THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL OF THE AD REF CHANGES WILL BE AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT EITHER VERSION.)

E) FOR REMARK RENUMBERED AS V, SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING: "COUNTERMEASURES BY THE FRG AGAINST EASTERN HARASSMENT OF FLAG PATROLS, FOR WHICH THE FOUR POWERS ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE, WOULD PROBABLY BE INAPPROPRIATE."

11. UNDER OCCURRENCE B, DETENTION IN EAST BERLIN:

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SECRET

PAGE 03 BONN 19296 02 OF 03 220435Z

A) UNDER POSSIBLE COUNTERMEASURES COLUMN, ITEM D (STEPS BY THE FRG), SUBSTITUTE "(SEE ALSO REMARKS III ABOVE)" FOR THE PRESENT PARENTHETICAL PHRASE.

B) UNDER REMARKS COLUMN, ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW REMARKS: "III. THE RESERVATIONS OF PRINCIPLE EXPRESSED UNDER (A) REMARK V, REGARDING ACTIONS BY THE FRG APPLY ALSO HERE. HOWEVER, IF THE DETENTION WAS SERIOUS, CONTINUED FOR A PERIOD OF TIME AND BECAME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, THE FRG COULD EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH THE ALLIES IN BERLIN. ANY STEPS IT MIGHT TAKE TO THIS PURPOSE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS COUNTERMEASURES

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PAGE 01 BONN 19296 03 OF 03 220535Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3285
USMISSION USBERLIN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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S E C R E T SECTION 03 OF 03 BONN 19296

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AND THE POSSIBLE DRAWBACKS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED."

C) UNDER REMARKS COLUMN, REMARK II, INSERT THE FOLLOWING BETWEEN "TIT FOR TAT RESPONSES TO" AND "PATROLS": "FURTHER ESCALATIONS IN THE SOVIET TREATMENT OF DETAINED."

12. UNDER OCCURRENCE C, EXCLUSION:

A) UNDER POSSIBLE COUNTERMEASURES COLUMN, PART B (STEPS IN BERLIN), ADD THE PARENTHETICAL PHRASE "(SEE REMARKS VI)" AFTER PARAGRAPH (1), "MAINTAIN OR INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ALLIED PATROLS IN EAST BERLIN."

B) UNDER SAME COLUMN, PART E: SUBSTITUTE "COULD" FOR "WOULD" IN THIRD SENTENCE.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 BONN 19296 03 OF 03 220535Z

C) UNDER REMARKS COLUMN, ADD THE FOLLOWING AS NEW REMARK VI: "BEFORE CONSIDERING AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ALLIED PATROLS, THE POSSIBLE DANGER OF OFFERING THE EAST A LARGER TARGET FOR FURTHER ACTION AGAINST THEM SHOULD BE WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE."

D) UNDER POSSIBLE COUNTERMEASURES COLUMN, PART ENTITLED "ON ACTUAL EXCLUSION," IN PARAGRAPH (B) (1), THE LAST SENTENCE SHOULD READ "ALTERNATIVELY, VEHICLES DENIED ENTRY WOULD REMAIN IN POSITION AND IMPEDE THE USE OF THE CHECKPOINT BY ALL OTHER VEHICLES."

13. IN ANNEX B (THE LEGAL BASIS FOR ALLIED PATROLS), SECOND PARAGRAPH, MAKE THE PERIOD AFTER "IN UNIFORM" A

COMMA AND ADD THE FOLLOWING: "BUT THE PRESUMPTION
MUST BE THAT ONCE FLAG TOURS, I.E. DUTY VISITS, HAD BEEN
STOPPED, OFF-DUTY VISITS WOULD SOON BE STOPPED
TOO."

14. IN ANNEX B, LAST SENTENCE, INSERT "THE OLD GREATER"
BETWEEN "THE WHOLE OF" AND "BERLIN."

15. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF AD REF CHANGES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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